### BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION

1 2 Arizona Corporation Commission **COMMISSIONERS** DOCKETED 3 SUSAN BITTER SMITH - Chairman **BOB STUMP** FEB - 9 2015 **BOB BURNS** DOUG LITTLE DOCKETED BY 5 TOM FORESE 1116 6 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DOCKET NO. T-02432B-14-0277 SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY L.P. DECISION NO. 74945 TO DISCONTINUE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE IN ARIZONA. 8 **ORDER** 9 Open Meeting February 3 and 4, 2015 10

# Phoenix, Arizona

#### BY THE COMMISSION:

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Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") finds, concludes, and orders that:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On June 12, 1997, in Decision No. 60236, issued in Docket No. U-2432-96-501, Sprint Communications Company L.P. ("Sprint" or "Company") was granted a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CC&N") to provide local exchange and exchange access services within the State of Arizona.
- 2. On July 21, 2014, Sprint filed its Application to discontinue Sprint's Integrated Local Services and cancel the related tariff pursuant to Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C.") R14-2-1107. In its Application, the Company certified that all affected customers were notified of the proposed discontinuance of service and information pertaining to alternative providers.
- 3. On July 30, 2014, the Company filed its Amendment to Application to Discontinue and Cancel Service, changing the date by which it sought to have its customers transition service from October 7, 2014 to December 22, 2014.
- 4. On August 14, 2014, Sprint filed a Notice of Filing Affidavits of Publication and Public Notice, stating notice to discontinue and cancel Sprint's Integrated Local Services and associated features was published in newspapers covering Sprint's Arizona service area.

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- 5. On September 18, 2014, pursuant to the Commission's Utilities Division Staff's ("Staff") request, the Company filed a Second Amendment to its Application, requesting cancellation of its CC&N to provide local exchange services in Arizona given that cancellation of Sprint's Integrated Local Services tariff would render the Company's CC&N for local exchange services unnecessary.
- 6. On December 30, 2014, Staff filed a Staff Report in this matter recommending approval of the application to discontinue local service, the cancellation of Sprint's Arizona C.C. Local Exchange Tariff No. 4, and the cancellation of Sprint's CC&N to provide competitive local exchange services in Arizona.
- 7. The Staff Report advised that Sprint had one business customer affected by its Application to discontinue service, that the customer was given notice of the proposed discontinuance, and that the customer has since disconnected its Sprint service. Staff also indicated that the legal notice published by the Company did not sufficiently address the complete discontinuance of local exchange service but recommended against additional publication to eliminate the potential for customer confusion given Sprint's sole customer had already been notified.
- 8. The Commission's Compliance Section reported that the Company has no delinquent compliance issues.
- The Consumer Services Section of the Utilities Division indicated that from January 1, 9. 2011 through August 28, 2014, no complaints, inquiries, or opinions had been filed against the Company. The Consumer Services Section further stated that, according to the Corporations Division of the Commission, the Company is in good standing.
- 10. A.A.C. R14-2-1107(A)(2) requires that an application to discontinue service include verification that all affected customers have been notified of the proposed discontinuance and that all affected customers will have access to an alternative provider. Sprint indicated in its Application that all affected customers were provided notice of the proposed discontinuance and were provided with information to enable them to choose an alternative provider.
- 11. A.A.C. R14-2-1107(A)(4) requires that an application to discontinue service include a list of all alternative utilities providing the same or similar service in all counties affected by its

application within 20 days after filing the application. Because Sprint certified that it provided all affected customers with information to enable them to choose an alternative provider, Sprint has met the intent of the rule.

- 12. A.A.C. R14-2-1107(B) requires a competitive telecommunications provider to publish legal notice of its application to discontinue service in all counties affected by its application within 20 days after filing the application. Sprint published notice of Sprint's intent to discontinue Sprint's Integrated Local Services and associated features. While Staff found the notice insufficient as it only related to the discontinuance of certain product services rather than the discontinuance of local exchange services as a whole, Staff recommended waiver of notice under A.A.C. R14-2-1107(B) given Sprint's sole customer had already been notified and the potential for customer confusion if another publication was required.
- 13. Staff's recommendation for approval of Sprint's application to discontinue local service, the cancellation of Sprint's Arizona C.C. Local Exchange Tariff No. 4, and the cancellation of Sprint's CC&N to provide competitive local exchange services in Arizona is reasonable and should be adopted.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. Sprint Communications Company L.P. is a public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-281 and 40-282.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over Sprint Communications Company L.P. and the subject matter of the application.
- 3. Sprint Communications Company L.P. has complied with the notice requirements of A.A.C. R14-2-1107(A)(2), (A)(4), and (B).
- 4. The cancellation of Sprint Communications Company L.P.'s CC&N to provide local exchange services and to cancel its tariff on file with the Commission for such services is in the public interest.
  - 5. The Company has waived a hearing in this matter.
  - 6. Staff's recommendation is reasonable and should be adopted.

1 **ORDER** 2 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the application of Sprint Communications Company 3 L.P. for the cancellation of the portion of its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity, granted in Commission Decision No. 60236 (June 12, 1997), to provide local exchange services in Arizona is 4 5 hereby approved and the portion of the Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to provide local exchange services is cancelled. 6 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Sprint Communications Company L.P.'s Arizona C.C. 7 Local Exchange Tariff No. 4 on file with the Commission is hereby cancelled. 8 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Sprint Communications Company L.P. is no longer subject 9 10 to the requirements of Finding of Fact No. 16(d)-(1) of Decision No. 60236. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately. 11 12 BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION. 13 14 COMMISSIONER CHAIRMA 15 16 17 18 WITNESS WHEREOF, I, JODI JERICH, Executive Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have 19 hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, 20 this day of 2015. 21 22 23 JODI JER EXECUTIVE DIRECT 24 25 **DISSENT** 26 27 DISSENT

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